



Cornell University

Department of Ecology
and Evolutionary Biology

Cornell University
Corson Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-2701

February 21, 2014

Cornell ICCA Innovation Credit Verification Letter

Dear AASHE Program Staff:

I'm pleased to attest to appropriateness of the Cornell Institute for Climate Change and Agriculture for an AASHE innovation credit in the sustainable economic development and climate change arena.

As someone who has been involved with multiple campus sustainability and climate change committees and initiatives, I can certify that the Institute meets the criteria of a truly innovative climate change and sustainability program.

We believe the Institute, formed in 2013, is unique among academic institutions in that it fosters partnerships, engages stakeholders, and delivers trusted, research-based climate information and tools to farmers, natural resource managers, and other decision-makers. The Institute is working to empower farmers and their communities to respond to increasing climate variability and change, take advantage of opportunities, and lessen their impacts on the climate. The ultimate goal is to build capacity to grow and strengthen agriculture in the face of a changing climate.

Partnerships like these are important to speed the delivery of science to where it is needed most, while providing quick feedback loops to researchers whose newly-developed tools and resources can be more quickly field-tested with the help of stakeholders.

The Cornell Institute for Climate Change and Agriculture is truly innovative, and will be partnering with the newly announced USDA regional climate change hub for the Northeast. The Institute can also serve as a model for other partnerships between the university and stakeholders moving forward.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian F. Chabot".

Brian F. Chabot
Professor